SUBJECT No. 15.

Monthly salaries to patels and shanbhogs.

Messrs. Maralusiddappa, Halkur Rudrappa, Arsikere Taluk, and M. Channabasappa, Ariskere Municipality.

Mr. Maralusiddappa.—The present system of remunerating the patels and shanbhogs is very unsatisfactory. Some fixed pay may be given to them and they may also be transferred whenever necessary. The inam lands given to them may also be resumed and *kandayam* recovered from them.

Another member opposed the suggestion and said that the existing system should continue.

Dewan.—The whole revenue system will have to be changed before the salary system is introduced. This is not possible as the hereditary rights of patels and shanbhogs will be affected.

SUBJECT No. 16.

Increase of *potgi* to patels and shanbhogs for efficiency.

Messrs. H. G. Basavappa, Shimoga District Board; Girimaji Rao, Kolar Taluk, and S. Nagarajaiah, Srinivaspur Taluk.

Mr. H. G. Basavappa.—The *potgi* given to the patels and shanbhogs at the present rate is very inadequate and there is much discontent among them. Some inducement is necessary to make them do their work well. Government may select the efficient among them and enhance their *potgi* by 50%. Though it is necessary to increase the *potgi* of all, it will not be possible to do so owing to the present financial condition. It may, at least, be increased in the case of those who are doing efficient work. The Deputy Commissioners can select the best men through the Amildars and can send a list to Government. If it is not possible to increase it by 50%, it may be increased by at least, 25%.

Revenue Commissioner.—The shanbhogs' *potgi* has been revised by calculating it villagewar. An additional sum of one lakh of rupees has been provided in this year's budget estimates on this account to supplement the Rs. 8 lakhs already provided. Their stationery allowance has been increased by 50 per cent. Additional allotment is not possible for some time to come. If small firkas are amalgamated, the *potgi* can be increased. This aspect was also discussed in the Shanbhogs' Conference. This question is under consideration.

Some members said that the amalgamation would benefit only those who had more than one village, and not the holder of a single village, while another member said that the existing system needed no change.

Another Member.—An examination should be held to test the efficiency of the village officers and only those who stand the test appointed. In several cases, *baravarddars* do not themselves do their work, but they get it done by others. The present patels and shanbhogs are also not trained in surveying. Most of them are not discharging their duties satisfactorily. The Government should go into these questions in detail and pass suitable orders.

Dewan.—The whole question will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 17.

Empowering jodidars to forfeit inam lands of village officials for failure to discharge duties.

Mr. Rauf Khan, Kolar Municipality.

Messrs. Rauf Khan, Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao, and Abbas Khan.—The jodidars of inam villages are put to considerable inconvenience owing to the village officials not collecting the revenue due from the raiyats in time. They do not also maintain regular and correct accounts and do not attend to the sanitation and other work of the villages. They sometimes live in other villages. The inam villages are, at times, brought to sale

owing to neglect of duty on the part of the village officials. The jodidars may therefore be empowered to forfeit the inam lands assigned for the service of the village officials if they fail to discharge their duties properly. They may be empowered to suspend the village officials, at least, temporarily if they are found not doing their duties satisfactorily.

Dewan.—This is too high a power exercised not even by the Deputy Commissioners.

The Revenue Commissioner said that Government had no concern with villages in which service inam lands had been granted by the jodidars themselves and that they could therefore deal with such lands as they liked. He also explained the provisions of the Village Offices Regulation under which inamdars might apply for a commission conferring on them the powers of Amildars or Assistant Commissioners to punish village officials.

Dewan.— The report of the Inam Commission will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 18.

Remission of wet assessment.

Messrs. H. Krishnamurthiachar and Ramappa, Mulbagal, Taluk; Anjaneya Setty and P. Vasudeva Rao, Pavagada Taluk; Singri Nanjappa, Tiptur Municipality, and Seenappa, Hoskote Taluk.

Mr. Krishnamurthiachar.—This is a very important subject which requires the sympathetic consideration of Government. There are a few tanks which get good supply every year, while the others do not get any supply at all; but the lands thereunder have to pay assessment at the same rate as that fixed on lands which have better facilities of irrigation. Even if the crops fail for years, *kandayam* is not remitted on such lands. This is very hard for the raiyats. There is not any appreciable difference between the rate of assessment on lands irrigated by small tanks and that on lands irrigated by large rivers. Suitable orders may be issued to remove the difficulties the raiyats are labouring under. The Madras system may be adopted in regard to remissions.

Revenue Commissioner.—The Special Committee appointed to formulate proposals with regard to remissions, recommended the adoption of the Bombay system. The Representative Assemby members also requested the same thing and Government after careful consideration issued the rules in February last, and they are more favourable to the raiyats than the Bombay rules. Government will see how these rules will work for three years, and then revise them if found necessary.

Messrs. Krishnamurthiachar and Karrick Krishnamurti Rao.—Owing to adverse seasonal conditions this year, crops have failed. Remission may be given in such parts where crops have entirely failed.

Revenue Commissioner.—It is better to know first how many tanks have received water during the rainy season and what lands have been cultivated under such tanks. Under the rules, applications should be made by the raiyats before the *jamabandi* time, so that the Deputy Commissioner may make necessary enquiries during *jamabandi* and make specific recommendations in hard cases.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastri.—It is not necessary to wait till the *jamabandi* time. The local officers should themselves inspect the localities, ascertain what tanks have received supply and submit reports instead of waiting for